

Industry, Citizens Backing School Tax Proposal

Members of Torrance are called upon next Tuesday, to approve or disapprove a tax override of 50 cents for additional funds needed to pay teachers and employees of the Torrance Unified School District. Industrialists, who will pay 60 per cent of the tax burden, are urging a "Yes" vote on the issue. Others who have carefully studied the local school finance picture, go so far as to predict that the only alternative to a "Yes" vote will be greatly reduced school services, expansion of the classes already at a maximum limit for effective teaching of pupils, and destructive downgrading of the entire system to the disadvantage of the 28,000 attending the elementary and high schools of the city.

ALL AGREE that any additional tax adds to the burdens of the already beleaguered wage earner. Yet,

careful perusal of the Torrance school finance problem reveals that the local system still operates at a rate that consistently has it among the lowest in the state.

Even with approval of the additional "override," experts emphasize and school administrators admit, the Board of Education of the Torrance Unified School District will have to operate on an economy program bordering in some phases on austerity.

The assumption that a gift of 26 acres of surplus Navy ordnance land to the school district lessens the need for the 50-cent override, is false for the reason that 85 per cent will go for salaries and 15 per cent for utilities and maintenance. The need for the tax would be necessary if classes were to be carried on in tents.

THOSE WHO VOTE next Tuesday have a right to know what the 50 cents—which will cost the average home owner an additional \$20 per year—will provide.

1. It will maintain the existing salary schedules for two more years.

2. It will replace the \$10 per student to be lost with expiration of Federal Law 874.

3. It will compensate for deficit financing resorted to this year and will place a small amount in reserve.

4. It will finance salaries of teachers needed to handle the 1800 additional students who will enroll in September and provide funds to finance the increasing number of high school students.

School authorities assert the only alternative to passage of the override is to decrease educational

services and increase the number of students in each classroom. No significant amount of money can be cut from the operating budget of the district without affecting the education of the children, they declare.

A "YES" VOTE next Tuesday is being advocated by the Industries Tax Committee representing local industries, one of which will suffer a \$115,000 increase if the override is approved.

Others working for a "Yes" vote are the Torrance Educational Advisory Committee and Parent-Teacher Assns., as well as many individuals interested in the welfare of the schools.

Polling places for next Tuesday's special referendum will be located in all school buildings of the city. They will be open to voters from 7 a. m. to 7 p. m.

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A Penny for your Thoughts

"Do you think Los Angeles area is sports minded enough to support two major league baseball teams?" With spring baseball just around the corner, this question was asked five people.

Isa M. Korn, 22919 Marjorie, clerk:

"Yes, I definitely think so. I have never seen such avid sports enthusiasts as there are here. Los Angeles is now the center of professional sports. I really think they are ready to support two teams. I've been to see the Colts and the Rams playing football and the crowds present in the Coliseum are just unbelievable. Baseball should attract as many."

Bob Lundquist, recreation department supervisor Torrance:

"I think the Los Angeles area is very sports minded. This has been proved by the big turnout at Dodger games. I think that Los Angeles is overloaded with different sports but with as much interest shown in baseball, they can certainly support two major league teams."

Elmer "Red" Moon, athletic director, recreation department, Torrance:

"It remains to be seen whether the games in Chavez Ravine will draw as much attention and if the fans will support them as well there. There certainly are enough sports minded people here but there are also so many activities in Southern California during good weather that many potential fans will be participating in those activities."

Frank Savalin, 1003 Acacia Ave., electrician:

"From what I've seen and heard, Los Angeles is really going all out for sports. I have just come from Boston and the situation we have back there is that the city will only support one team. But every city has a different viewpoint depending on the circumstances. I think they can do it here."

Auto Tools Taken

Tools valued at \$3000 were stolen from a garage at 819 Border Ave. used to maintain vehicles of the Yellow Cab Co. sometime over the week end. Police were told Monday morning.

AIRPORT TOWER PLAN SET

Finance Study By Committee Goes to Board

A report of local business and industrial executives on operations of the Torrance Unified School District is under study today by the board of education following its receipt this week. Details of the report have not been made public, and C. Nelson Rucker, active member of the committee and manager of the huge Union Carbide plant here, said yesterday that the committee was not empowered to release details of the report.

"Our assignment was to make a study of the district's operation and see if any possible areas of savings could be suggested," he told the HERALD.

"WE HAVE done this and have made some recommendations to the board for their consideration," he said.

Rucker added that he favored the tax proposal to be presented to voters next Tuesday, saying it was his belief that the district needed the money to continue its current operations. He added that the requested tax hike of 50 cents would cost his firm \$74,000.

HE DENIED reports that the committee might have pointed out specific ways to save the district as much as a million dollars.

"We used no such figures in our report to the board," he said.

The report was received without comment by the board, and school officials have declined to make contents of the report public until the board has had an opportunity to study it.

THE HERALD has learned

City Continues to Show Growth in Retail Sales

The City of Torrance continues to make rapid progress in the field of retail sales, according to figures obtained from the State Board of Equalization by the statistical department of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

Taxable retail sales reached \$30,771,000 for the third quarter of 1960, which is an increase of \$6,690,000 over a similar period in 1959 and \$9,459,000 over a similar period in 1958. This outstanding increase ranks Torrance eighth in Los Angeles County (an increase of two positions over last quarter) and 24th statewide.

Cities passed by Torrance's retail "surge" include: Alhambra (\$27,282,000); Compton (\$23,373,000); Culver City (\$23,478,000); Downey (\$27,634,000); Gardena (\$11,983,000); Hawthorne (\$13,004,000); Man-



REALTORS BRIEFED . . . Dr. J. H. Hull (center), superintendent of schools, explains breakdown of city's population to Delbert Vaughn (left), president of the Torrance-Lomita Board of Realtors, and Ken Miller, program chairman for the day, during meeting of the realtors at the Jump'n Jack yesterday noon. Dr. Hull outlined basis for the district's tax proposal on which voters will pass Tuesday. (Herald Photo)

Supervisors Stall Bid To Lease Courtrooms

A recommendation by the county's chief administrative officer that additional "temporary superior court facilities be leased in Inglewood for a period of five years was deferred for a week Tuesday by the

board of supervisors on the recommendation of Supervisor Burton W. Chace.

Hollinger's recommendation called for leasing of additional facilities to supplement the temporary facilities now being used in Inglewood to house the Southwest Superior Court Branch.

A move is under way to shift the permanent facilities to Torrance, and Chace asked for continuance to see if quarters could be leased on a month-to-month basis.

CHACE expressed opposition to long-term leasing of quarters for the temporary location when studies are being made for the permanent location of the facilities.

On another front, the Redondo Beach City Council Monday night added its official voice to the growing demand to have the court removed from its temporary location in Inglewood and shifted to the Torrance civic center.

REDONDO City Attorney Frank Perry is instructed to prepare a resolution asking that the court be placed in this area because of the geographic and population growth. The move was initiated by Councilwoman Eunice Patterson and strongly backed by Mayor LeRoy L. Center, an attorney. Mayor Center commented

that it was fortunate that Torrance is ready to donate civic center land for construction of the court facilities.

ON THE LOCAL front, the city council Tuesday asked the County Regional Planning Commission to make a new population study to be used as a guide by the supervisors and judges in determining the population centers of the area.

Councilman Nickolas O. Dralle, who suggested the move, placed special emphasis on the need for studies which would include population projections for the area which would include the Palos Verdes Peninsula area, which has asked to be transferred from Long Beach to the local court district.

A PUBLIC hearing scheduled for next Wednesday evening by a committee of Superior Court judges has been delayed until April 26 at the request of the board of supervisors.

Judge Lloyd S. Nix, chairman of the committee, reported last week that the hearing was being delayed to permit preparation of more complete data on the court costs, parking, and possible revision of nearby boundaries to include Lomita and the Peninsula area in the Southwest District.

FAA to Get Plans Friday For Facility

Final plans for a new airport tower have been approved by the city council and will be presented to the Federal Aviation Agency in Los Angeles tomorrow, City Manager George Stevens reported yesterday.

The plans call for construction of a building with four service floors and the control "cab" which will house electronic equipment to oversee the landing and take-off operations at the airport.

Approval of the plans Tuesday marked the final step in a long series of operations to bring the specifications for a new tower into conformance with Federal requirements, Stevens said. When completed, the tower will be operated by the FAA at federal expense.

OVERALL cost of the project will be about \$165,000 of which the federal government will pay 54 per cent, Stevens said. The city's share has been allocated and the funds are available, he added.

When completed, the tower operators will go on the federal payroll. This will mean a savings of \$19,000 to \$20,000 a year to the city based on the current part-time operation of the facility.

THE TOWER will be located west of the present wartime facility and closer to Pacific Coast Hwy. The area in which it will sit will eventually become the administrative center of the airport, according to master planning.

Type of equipment to be installed will be decided by the federal agency.

\$5000 in Bills Go To Bandit

A lone gunman, his face disguised by a stocking, fled with about \$5000 from a Torrance area market early Tuesday after cutting his way into the store through the roof and waiting for employes to report for work.

Deputies of the Firestone Sheriff's station who investigated the robbery of the Sunfair Market, 229th and Vermont, said the gunman cut a hole in the roof of the store and dropped through, where he waited for the manager who arrived about 7 a. m.

Manager Clarence W. Loe, 42, and a bread delivery man were held at gunpoint while he scooped large denomination bills from the safe, ignoring the checks.

He warned the pair not to call police for 20 minutes.

Herald's Social Pages Win High California Honor

The HERALD'S women's section, edited by Edna Cloyd, was recognized for its excellence at the recently concluded

73rd annual California Newspaper Publishers Assn. convention in San Francisco.

The Merit Award, symbolizing second place, was garnered by Miss Cloyd's pages in the Best Women's Interests Coverage in the large non-daily newspaper category. First place went to the Burlingame Advance-Star.

Competing for honors in the CNPA Better Newspaper Contest were 191 California newspapers. A total of 894 entries were submitted in a wide variety of editorial, mechanical, pictorial, and promotional categories.

Previously in recent years the HERALD has won statewide recognition for General Excellence, Best Editorial Page, and Best Special Issue.

Miss Cloyd has been editor of the Social World pages of this newspaper for the past six years.



EDNA CLOYD Wins Merit Award